

certification laws in this state, when these two things conflict, there is another rule that is generally used and has been used for a couple of hundred years to overcome these conflicts, and that is a very simple rule, too, and it is this. When it comes to, for example, freedom of religious rights and the state's right to do one thing, educate the children, make sure they are able to function, if there is an alternate course, if there is another way that that responsibility of the state can be fulfilled, a reasonable way, a workable way, then that other workable or reasonable way has to yield and be accepted by the state when the conflict is with the religious principle. So what the solution we have offered is very simple. Do we test the cook and license the cook, so to speak, or do we test the pudding, the product the cook produces, and can our purpose, the education of the children, can that be accomplished by checking the pudding or the student? Other states have found it can. The Spire Commission which thoroughly examined this issue said, yes, we really are unbiased, we really are going to examine it, that is a reasonable method, and so that becomes the essence of the bill. Instead of licensing the preacher, the teacher through the certification process, the bill says, we will comply with everything. We will provide curriculum. We will provide fire and safety. We will provide attendance, but when it gets to the bottom line, let's test the product that is trying to be produced, the student, and see if the system that is being used is accomplishing that goal, and if it is, let's let the students go on and attend this school. Let's let them be educated in the way that satisfies their religious beliefs. If it doesn't, on the other hand, if this testing develops and shows that these students don't meet or exceed the average of other students in Nebraska or the United States, then those students under those circumstances can be taken out of the school, and the testing will be on a regular enough basis that we will know if any changes need to be made before we make them. Now if you can for just a moment in trying to decide this issue set aside the Reverend Silevens for a moment, set aside the conflicts, and just ask yourself, is this a reasonable solution? And for those who say, well, the law has to be absolute, remember you are dealing with the very basic